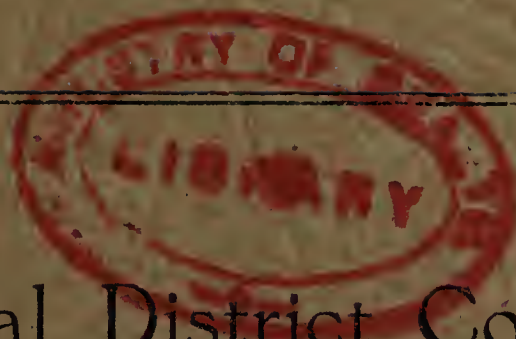


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Yeovil Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

S. C. CLAPHAM, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,

FOR THE YEAR

1938

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

CHARLES A. WILSON, A.R.S.I.

Yeovil Rural District Council.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health :

S. C. CLAPHAM, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

CHARLES A. WILSON,

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Meat and
other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

RONALD J. RICHARDS,

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Meat and
other Foods.

Assistant Housing Inspector :

THOMAS H. LORD.

Sanitary Inspector's Clerk :

B. M. MEMBURY.

The Council do not maintain a Nursing Staff.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in Acres) 53,495.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate) 16,630.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to rate book, 5,530.

Number of Families or separate occupiers estimated 1938—5,750.

Rateable Value at 31st December, 1938, £61,264.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £254.

The chief Industries carried on in the District are Agriculture and Glove Making.

In the Gloving Industry a large number of outworkers are employed. The Engineering, Aircraft, Woodwork and Building trades provides employment for a large number of the population.

The number of persons employed in Agriculture continues to decline. There was a slight improvement in regard to employment in the district.

Extracts from vital statistics of the year:

		M	F	Total.
Live Births	{ Legitimate	113	103	216
	{ Illegitimate	2	5	7
	Birth Rate 13:16			
Still Births	{ Legitimate	2	3	5
	{ Illegitimate	0	1	1
	Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still)			
Deaths	... ..	115	104	219
Death Rate 10·98.				

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth:—

from Sepsis	...	...	...	0
„ other causes	...	...	...	0
Total				0

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—

	M	F	Total.
Legitimate ...	11	2	13
Illegitimate ...	0	0	0

Death Rate, per 1,000 live births:—58·02

Deaths under 1 year, divided as follows:—

Under 1 week	... 8	1—4 weeks	... 0
1—6 months	... 3	6—12 months	... 2
Death from Measles (all ages)	...	...	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	2
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	0
„ „ Cancer (all ages)	...	...	29

No unusual or excessive mortality has occurred during the year.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN YEOVIL RURAL DISTRICT, 1938.

Registrar General's Figures.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>					<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females</i>
	All Causes	...	...	...	115	104
1	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...			—	—
2	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	—
4	Whooping Cough		...	...	2	—
5	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
6	Influenza	...	...	...	—	4
7	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...		—	—
8	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...		1	—
9	Tuberculosis of respiratory system				6	6
10	Other Tuberculosis disease		...		1	—
11	Syphilis	...	...	...	—	—
12	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis				0	—
13	Cancer, malignant disease		...		11	18
14	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	3
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.		...		3	12
16	Heart Disease	...	...	...	26	19
17	Aneurysm	...	...	...	2	—
18	Other Circulatory diseases		...		4	3
19	Bronchitis	...	...	...	6	3
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	2	2
21	Other respiratory diseases		...		1	1
22	Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	1	—
23	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)		...		—	—
24	Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	—
25	Cirrhosis of liver		...		—	1
26	Other diseases of liver, etc.		...		—	2
27	Other digestive diseases		...		1	3
28	Acute and chronic nephritis		...		8	2
29	Puerperal sepsis...	...	...		—	—
30	Other puerperal causes	...	...		—	—
31	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformation, &c.	...	...		5	3
32	Senility	...	...	...	13	14
33	Suicide	...	...	...	2	0
34	Other violence	...	...	...	5	0
35	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	13	7
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	—	1

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

- (1) Full particulars of the Public Health Officers of the Authority. See page 3.
- (2) (a) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food. Samples are submitted for examination to the County Laboratory at Taunton.
- (b) Ambulance Facilities. Several within easy reach.
- (c) Nursing in the Home. District Nurses are available over the whole area.
- (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics. Under control of the County Council.
- (e) Hospitals. The South Somerset Joint Hospital Board. New Isolation Hospital completed and to be opened shortly, accommodation 40 beds.

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

WATER SUPPLIES. As far as practicable the whole of the district is now supplied with a good piped supply of water, but further extensions and additions will be required from time to time to maintain the supplies and to meet future demands.

There was no shortage of water during the year and the quality of the water as shown by bacteriological examination is very satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. A scheme of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal was commenced for the Mudford Road, Combe Street Lane and Stone Lane Area in the parishes of Mudford and Yeovil Without. Considerable development has taken place in this area during the past few years, and further development is expected on the completion of the proposed scheme.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. Progress is still being made in replacing privies and pail closets by water closets.

SCAVENGING. This is undertaken by the Council in 20 parishes, but in nearly all cases the collection is confined to indestructible refuse. The Council has two central sites for the deposit of refuse. The tipping is controlled as far as possible. The Council do not undertake the cleansing of cesspools.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. See Sanitary Inspector's Report, page 13.

SHOPS AND OFFICES. It was not found necessary to take any special action under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934.

CAMPING SITES.	(1) Number of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1938	1
	(2) Number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936	1
	(3) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1938	20

SMOKE ABATEMENT. It has not been found necessary to take any action.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

(a) Public	Nil
(b) Privately owned	1

No action taken.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. Three houses (not Council Houses) were found to be infested: these were sprayed with Zaldecide and fumigated with Cimex on two occasions, with the requisite interval, by the Local Authority. To ensure that the belongings of tenants were free from vermin before removal to Council Houses, the mattresses and upholstery were burnt and furniture washed in disinfectant. No special measures were required by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAW OR REGULATIONS.
21 Slaughter Houses and 1 Knacker's Yard.

RAG FLOCK ACTS. There are no premises in the district in which rag flock is manufactured.

SCHOOLS. The sanitary condition and water supply of some of the schools in the district are unsatisfactory, and I am of the opinion that the same cannot be considered satisfactory until all have Water Closets with proper flushing cisterns and jet fountains for drinking purposes.

HOUSING.

Good progress has been made in the Council's Slum Clearance and Overcrowding programme during the year. The number of bedrooms from one to six provided in the new houses will give comfortable accommodation to large and small families. The type of house has been improved.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1938.

Number of new Houses erected during the year:—

(1)	By Local Authority		
	With	(a) Rehousing under Housing Act 1936	30
	State	(b) Overcrowding	16
	Assistance	(c) Other	—
	Without	(a) Overcrowding	38
	State		
	Assistance	(b) Other	22
(11)	By other Bodies or Persons		
	(a)	With State Assistance	—
	(b)	Without State Assistance	137

1. Housing Inspections :

(1) (a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts).	1128
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	2652
(2) (a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.	11
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	15
(3)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	9
(4)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	60

2. Housing Action.

(a)	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	30
(b)	Number of houses demolished voluntarily or in consequence of informal action	3

3. Action under Statutory Powers:—

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	21
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	22
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	12
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made	2
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5
(3) Section 11, sub-section (3) Undertakings	7

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV.—Overcrowding:—

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	14
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	14
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	109

(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	3
(c) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	60
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	489
(d)	Number of dwellinghouses which have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- A. MILK SUPPLY. Considerable progress has been made during the year in the improvement of the condition of dairies and cowsheds. There has been a considerable increase in the number of Producers of Designated milk. 36 samples of milk were examined for tubercle bacilli with 35 negative and one positive result.
There are 29 producers of Tuberculin Tested and 34 producers of Accredited Milk in the district, and the sampling is carried out by the Council as agents for the County Council.
- B. Meat Inspection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector's department and as far as possible inspection is made at the time of slaughter.
- C. Adulteration. The Council are not a Local Authority under the sale of Food and Drugs Act.
- D. Nutrition, Dissemination of knowledge. No action taken.
- E. Shell-fish (Molluscan). There are no shell-fish beds in the district.
- F. Prevention of Blindness. No special action taken.
- G. Tuberculosis. Action taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis). No action necessary.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Whooping-Cough, Chicken Pox and Mumps have been prevalent during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitt'd to Hospit'l	Total Deaths
Small-pox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	18	9	—
Diphtheria	9	8	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—
Pneumonia	17	—	3
Erysipelas	6	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—

Diphtheria Antitoxin and materials for Schick and Dick tests are provided free.

Bacteriological specimens are examined in the County Council's Laboratory.

All school intimations of disease are investigated.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of all deaths from the disease in the area during 1938 are given in the following form :—

Age Periods.				New Cases.				Deaths.			
				Pulmon-ary		Non. Pul-monary		Pulmon-ary		Non Pul-monary.	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	—	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
10	...	...	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
15	...	...	...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	2	3	—	—
25	...	...	...	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
35	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
45	...	...	...	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	—
55	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—
65 and upwards	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
				4	5	2	4	6	6	1	0

S. C. CLAPHAM, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Yeovil Rural District Council.

Yeovil Rural District Council.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the Yeovil Rural District Council.

MISS OSBORNE AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year 1938.

All the complaints received during the year were satisfactorily dealt with.

HOUSING.

The total number of new houses erected, 243, was a considerable increase on the previous year.

Plans submitted for approval under the Byelaws totalled 123.

Town Planning. The preparation of the Town Planning Scheme by the Yeovil and District Town Planning Committee is well advanced. 119 Interim Development Permission Certificates and 7 Interim Development Refusal Certificates were issued.

Slum Clearance and Overcrowding. The Council's scheme for re-housing persons displaced from demolished and overcrowded houses is well in hand. 30 houses have been erected under the Slum Clearance programme, and 54 to relieve overcrowding, during the year.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The following works of water supply have been completed during the year :—

North Perrott. The work of improving and extending the supply was completed.

Hardington Mandeville. The work is now in hand to supply Hardington Mandeville with water from Odcombe.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Yeovil Without and Mudford. The Council are proceeding with a scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for the Mudford Road, Combe Street Lane and Stone Lane area of these parishes. The development of this area has made the provision of a scheme essential.

The Council have many schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal under consideration, necessary for several parishes, the most urgent ones being :—Ash, East Coker, Martock, West Coker and West Chinnock, where conditions are very unsatisfactory.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES. There are 21 Slaughter Houses on the register, and these have been kept clean and wholesome.

KNACKERS YARDS. The one licensed Knacker's Yard in the district is kept in accordance with the Byelaws.

BAKEHOUSES. In a few cases it has been necessary to draw the attention of occupiers to small matters, otherwise the condition of these premises is satisfactory.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES. There has been a further increase in the number of producers of designated milk from 12 per cent. to approximately 16 per cent. of the registered producers.

The collection of milk samples has become an important part of the work of my department, and the time and travelling involved has considerably increased.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. All are in fairly satisfactory condition.

REFUSE COLLECTION. The collection of indestructible refuse is carried out by the Council in 20 parishes and deposited at two central tips.

SANITARY MATTERS AND NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Number of inspections and re-inspections of houses
and premises—6,046.

Defective drainage	...	...	...	...	...	22
Defective and insufficient Closet Accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	40
New W.C.s provided	...	...	...	...	...	36
Nuisances from Cesspits	...	...	...	...	...	3
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	10
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rooms which require cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	23
Samples of water taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	98
Number of houses not reasonably fit	...	...	...	...	...	60
(a) Dilapidated Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	6
(b) Dilapidated Walls	...	...	...	...	...	8

(c) Defective windows and ventilation	...	...	18
(d) Defective floors	...	...	14
(e) Dampness to rooms	...	...	19
(f) Plastering to ceiling and walls defective	...	...	22
(g) Dangerous Staircases	...	...	1
(h) No Eaves Gutters	...	...	3
(i) No proper Food Store	...	...	8
(j) No proper Washing Accommodation	...	...	2
Drains tested	...	...	201
Rooms and Shelters sprayed or fumigated after Infectious Disease	...	...	48
Schools sprayed or fumigated	...	...	2
Number of notices served (Preliminary)	...	...	19
Number of notices served (Statutory)	...	...	43

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Factories	...	...	37
Workshops and Workplaces	...	...	55
Written Notices—Factories	...	...	0
Workshops and Workplaces	...	...	0

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

	Ref. to Found Remedied H.M.I.						
Want of Cleanliness	1	...	1	...	0
Want of proper Sanitary Accommodation	2	...	2	...	0
Want of Fire Escape	0	...	0	...	0

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Number of Producers on the Register	...	...	404
Number of Distributors on the Register	...	...	100
Distributors who are also Producers	...	...	93
Distributors who are also Wholesale Traders	...	...	1
Retail Purveyors only	...	...	7
Cowsheds and Dairies inspected	...	...	315
Samples of Milk taken for Examination :—			
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	108
Reported Unsatisfactory	...	...	35
Accredited	...	...	122
Reported Unsatisfactory	...	...	27
Pasteurised	...	...	4
For Tubercle Bacilli	...	...	36
Reported Unsatisfactory	...	...	1
Total number of samples collected	...	...	270

MEAT.

Number of Slaughter Houses (Licensed)	21
Number of notices to Limewash	4
Number of notices received P.H. (Meat) Regulations ...	104
Number of notices received of Regular Slaughtering ...	19
Number of notices received of Occasional Slaughtering ...	60
Number of notices received given under Section 9 ...	25
Inspections made	475

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep @ Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	274	586	60	1908	2240
Number Inspected	168	360	36	936	972
<u>All Diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	18	1	5	6	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease	3.40	2.77	.53	.62	
<u>Tuberculosis only;</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	7	—	—	6	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	40	—	—	35	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.57	—	—	3.70	

Slaughtermen Licensed... .. 45

OTHER FOODS.

Number of Bakehouses 30
Notices to Limewash 1

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number carried on in the District 1

WATER SUPPLY.

Number of samples taken for Bacteriological Examination	98
Number of samples reported Satisfactory	62
Number of samples reported not entirely satisfactory ...	34
Number of samples reported unsatisfactory	2

PETROLEUM ACTS.

Licences granted during the year (Petroleum)	56
Licences granted during the year (Carbide)	7

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES A. WILSON,
*Senior Sanitary Inspector,
Inspector of Meat and other Foods,
Associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.*

